



Kai Hagen: Public Letter from Judy Rice (of Frederick) about the annexations

Kai Hagen's Notes

Public Letter from Judy Rice (of Frederick) about the annexations

Share +

Sunday, September 13, 2009 at 2:46pm

In this r
No one.

OUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

What do Frederick residents want Frederick to be? In surveys, such as those conducted by Aspire Frederick and East Frederick Rising, citizens have clearly expressed their opposition to urban sprawl and costly annexations. We don't want to become Montgomery County North. We'd rather our decision-makers focus on revitalizing our existing communities than stretching beyond our horizon.

Despite our wishes, the mayor and board of aldermen rushed to add three large farms to the city in the waning days of this administration, approving them after a single public hearing, which started after 10:00 in the evening on a weeknight. In the heat of an election, these officials decided to commit the next two boards and mayors to 1,200 homes and 2.3 million square feet of office space, on both sides of Route 15 and along the Monocacy River, even though there are more than enough of both in the pipeline.

We still have the opportunity to distinguish ourselves from Everytown, USA, to resist sprawl and focus on evolving in a way that preserves what we love about Frederick, rather than expanding ever outward, increasing our tax rates, and diminishing our quality of life here.

What can we do?

When the volunteers come knocking, we can sign the petitions for referendum to let us vote on these annexations.

Judith Rice
Frederick

